Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, South Dakota leads the nation with 74 percent of young children having both parents in the work force; and,

Whereas, South Dakota also continues to have one of the highest percentages in the nation of children under the age of six in paid child care; and,

Whereas, South Dakota has 1,338 regulated child care programs with the capacity to serve up to 42,625 children; and,

Whereas, The state will join parents and organizations on a local and national level to recognize child care providers; and,

Whereas, By calling attention to the importance of child care services for children and families in our state, these groups hope to improve the quality and availability of such services; and,

Whereas, High quality, early childhood services, such as child care, represent a worthy commitment to our children's future:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 8, 2009, as

PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY

in South Dakota, and I call on all citizens to join me in recognizing child care providers and their important role in South Dakota's future.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Eighth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nine.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State